REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Figure 2

The Examiner objected to the figures since the numeral 71, used in the specification, was not found in the figures. Figure 2 has been amended to add the missing numeral. As such it is respectfully submitted that this ground for objection has been overcome.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to change the word "the" to "a" as requested by the Examiner. As such it is respectfully submitted that this ground for objection has been overcome.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112

The Examine rejected claims 1-18 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, the Examiner asserted that claim 1 misses certain steps described in the specification and that Claim 10 misses system elements for carrying out the allegedly missing steps of Claim 1 . Claims 1 and 10 have been amended with an eye to addressing the issues raised by the Examiner. However, claim 1 has not been amended to recited each and every step mentioned by the Examiner. For example, the performing of speech and/or gesture recognition, as described at Page 6, lines 14-22, is not essential. The passage clearly indicates that other input modalities than speech and/or gesture recognition. Note the following passage from the specification: "FIG. 3 is, for example, applicable to the arrangement of FIG. 1 where the two input modalities are speech and gesture; accordingly, in FIG. 3 the task entities are referenced with the same reference numerals as in FIG. 1, notwithstanding that the FIG. 3 arrangement can equally be applied to other input modalities." [emphasis added]. Moreover, please note

that 35 USC § 112, sixth paragraph gives the applicant the privilege of presenting claims to the subject matter which he or she regards as his or her invention. So the Patent Statute gives to the applicant, and not the examiner, the privilege of deciding the appropriate scope of the claims.

In any event, it is hoped that the Examiner will agree that given the extensive amendments made to claims 1 and 10 that this grounds for rejection has been overcome.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 101

It is believed that the amendments made in response to the rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, also deal with the issues raised by the Examiner since the issues raised by the Examiner in connection with this 35 USC § 101 rejection are basically consistent with the issues raised by the Examiner in connection with the 35 USC § 112 rejection.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 102

The Examiner rejects claims 1,3,9-10,12 and 18 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being allegedly fully met by USP 6,964,023 to Maes. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Maes does not teach each and every limitation of the independent claims and therefor this grounds for rejection fails.

The Examiner cites a passage at Column 37, lines 4-16 of Maes. In the first part of this passage that which is disclosed is simply the existence of conversational engines and different modes of input to them. The second part of this passage discusses the allocation of computing resource to the engines to keep dialogue flowing. However, the applicant discerns nothing there that discusses resource allocation, dynamically, on the bases set forth in the claims. For example, claim 1 recites, in part:

"wherein a relative average actual or allocated usage of
the resource by the data-processing entities is dynamically
allocated by said bandwidth moderator according to one or more
of the following: <u>actual usage of the different input modalities by
the user of the device; confidence in the results of processing
carried out in respect of each of the input modalities; pragmatic
information on input modality usage</u> ..." [emphasis added]

Keeping "a dialog flowing" does not anticipate the underlined language from claim 1 or the same language found in claim 10. Since Maes does not teach each and every limitation of the independent claims, the rejection of those claims under 35 USC § 102 is improper. As such the rejection of the dependent claims does not require discussion.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 103

The Examiner points to nothing in Bridger (WO 01/35575) which would make up for the above-described deficiency in the teachings of Maes.

Furthermore, Bridger is nothing more than a channel router. It is not concerned with "a multimodal system that is arranged to receive user input in multiple input modalities for use in combination by an application being run by the multimodal system" as set forth in claim 1, for example.

Anyway, even if it were obvious to stuff Bridger's channel router into Maes' hardware, the limitation underlined in the preceding section is not met by the cited art.

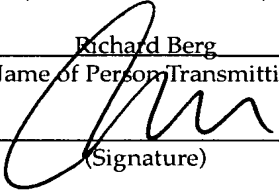Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2125. In

particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is

authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time

period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the

number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition

fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2125.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
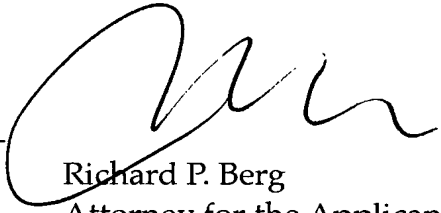
_____May 31, 2007_____
(Date of Transmission)

_____Richard Berg_____
(Name of Person Transmitting)

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Respectfully submitted,

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